

Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

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R 241820 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1983

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, JM

SUBJ: NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL NAMED

1. SUMMARY: GLASSPOLE TO BE NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL. TIE WITH BRITAIN CONFIRMED. NO MENTION OF A SUCCESSOR IN PARLIAMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. AT THE CLOSE OF A LONG LABOUR DAY, DURING WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER HAD PUT IN PERSONAL APPEARANCES AT WIDELY- SCATTERED PROJECT SITES, THE PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCED AT KING'S HOUSE YESTERDAY EVENING (MAY 23) THAT FLORIZEL GLASSPOLE, MINISTER OF EDUCATION, WOULD BE SWORN IN AS JAMAICA'S SECOND NATIVE- BORN GOVERNOR GENERAL ON JUNE 27. THE THE WORDS OF THE PRIME MINISTER, THE ANNOUNCEMENT UNVEILED THE " WORST KEPT SECRET IN RECENT GOVERNMENTAL HISTORY," AS THE GLASSPOLE SUCCESSION HAS BEEN WIDELY KNOWN SINCE THE RETIREMENT OF SIR CLIFFORD CAMPBELL ON MARCH 1.

3. UNLIKE HIS PREDECESSOR IN OFFICE, GLASSPOLE WILL NOT
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RECEIVE FURTHER UK AWARDS BUT WILL BE THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE JAMAICAN " ORDER OF THE NATION", CREATED ESPECIALLY FOR JAMAICAN GOVERNORS GENERAL.

4. THE GLASSPOLE APPOINTMENT RECEIVED EXTREMELY WARM SUPPORT FROM THIS MORNING' S GLEANER.

5. COMMENT: GLASSPOLE HAS WIDELY BEEN CONSIDERED AS THE LOGICAL SUCCESSOR TO SIR CLIFFORD FOR MORE THAN A YEAR. HIS APPOINTMENT IS INDICATIVE OF THE STRONG SUPPORT IN JAMAICA FOR THE RETENTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL TIES WITH THE QUEEN AND LAYS TO REST ANY SPECULATION ABOUT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REPUBLIC, AT LEAST FOR GLASSPOLE' S TERM.

6. THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL COMMENT ON GLASSPOLE' S SUCCESSOR IN PARLIAMENT, BUT THE GRAPEVINE STILL INDICATES STRONGLY THAT HIS NUMBER TWO IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SENATOR ELI MATALON, WILL STAND IN A BYE- ELECTION IN GLASSPOLE' S EAST KINGSTON CONSTITUENCY AND ASSUME THE EDUCATION PORTFOLIO IN DUE COURSE.
DE ROULET

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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